



Palmetto Scholars Academy

2415 Avenue F
North Charleston, SC

Grades	6-9 Middle School	
Enrollment	232 Students	
Principal	Martha B. Hale	843-300-4118
Superintendent	Wayne Brazell, Ph.D.	803-734-8322
Board Chair	Don McLaurin	803-603-1441

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2012 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2012	Excellent	Excellent*
2011	Excellent	Good
2010	N/A	N/A
2009	N/A	N/A
2008	N/A	N/A

* The School's 2012 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

Percent of students tested in 2011-12 whose 2010-11 test scores were located

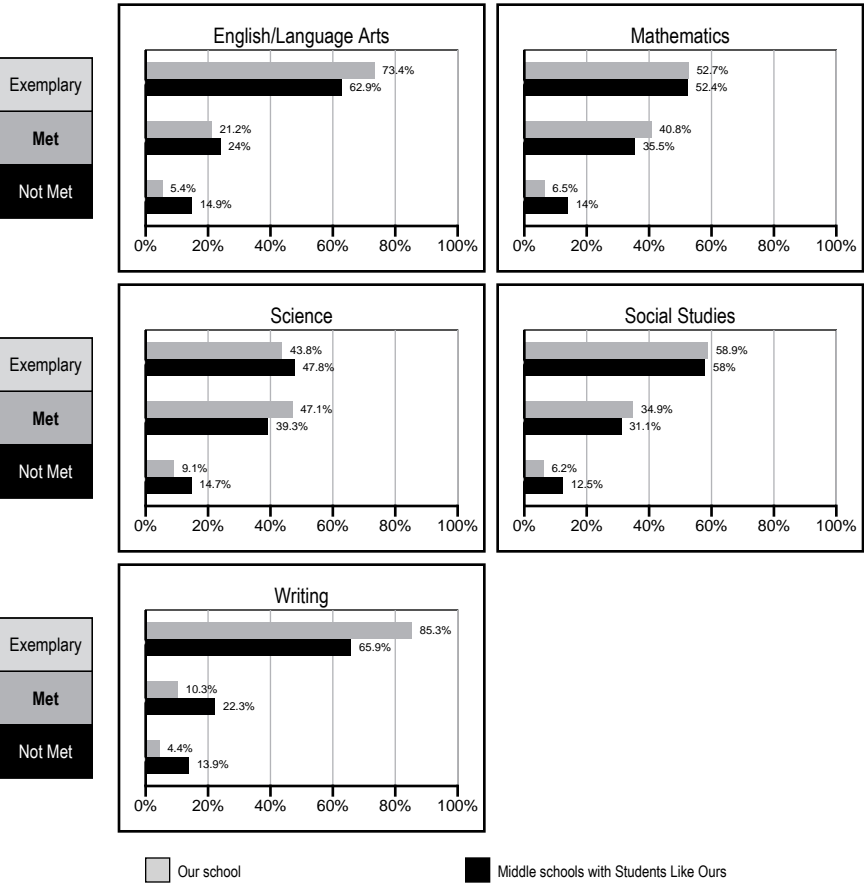
93%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
7	0	1	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	91.1%	96.6%
English 1	98.4%	97.0%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	95.3%	96.9%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=232)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	67.4%	Up from 50.4%	30.9%	22.9%
Retention rate	0.0%	No Change	0.2%	0.8%
Attendance rate	97.3%	Up from 96.0%	97.0%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	Down from 0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=19)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	57.9%	Down from 81.8%	53.7%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	87.3%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	98.0%	Down from 99.1%	95.2%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$37,578	Down 5.4%	\$44,784	\$46,422
Professional development days/teacher	1.4 days	Down from 3.1 days	9.2 days	10.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	0.0	Down from 1.0	4.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	30.0 to 1	Up from 22.6 to 1	23.8 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	95.0%	Up from 94.3%	91.4%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Excellent	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 18.5%	99.6%	98.8%
Character development program	Good	Up from Below Average	Excellent	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$5,707	N/A	\$6,105	\$7,245
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	59.0%	N/A	62.3%	63.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	49.0%	N/A	61.7%	60.9%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Palmetto Scholars Academy provides a differentiated program designed to meet the educational needs of intellectually gifted learners, address their distinctive social and emotional needs, promote individual character development and instill a life-long love of learning. Our students engage with leading innovative organizations in higher education, business and science, to empower them to make original and impactful contributions toward the elevation of South Carolina in the areas of education, commerce, arts and science. Our students come together from all areas of the LowCountry, including Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester Counties, and represent a diverse population in terms of ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. In order to meet the school's mission, all students are in honors or advanced courses, and flexible scheduling allows faculty to meet the individual needs of the gifted learner. Visitors to the school would likely see cooperative groupings, discussion, debate, seminars, and inquiry-based learning as they walk the hallways. Most faculty have advanced degrees and are required to become endorsed in gifted and talented education, and they strive to facilitate student-centered instruction for gifted learners. In addition, curriculum is facilitated by nationally recognized leaders in the field who ensure that the latest research on best practices in gifted education is incorporated in all grade levels. During the second year of operation, students at Palmetto Scholars Academy continued to contribute positively to the community and excel in statewide assessments. Each student was required to complete ten hours of community service, and several students completed over fifty hours throughout the school year. School-wide service projects included the planning and implementation of a nationally recognized suicide prevention event that was initiated by a group of ninth grade students, as well as student led-service with LowCountry Orphan Relief and soldier and veteran-related drives. Students also participated in the SCPCSD Science Fair and won fifteen ribbons and one People's Choice Award. The school community, which consists of faculty, staff, students, and supportive parents, is proud of the great accomplishments and successes that Palmetto Scholars Academy has been able to achieve in only two years of operation. An active parent organization, partnered with a long-range strategic plan, ensures a successful vision for our school's future as South Carolina's first public charter for gifted education. We are driven by our mission and strive to maintain the highest of standards in order to meet the unique needs of gifted learners.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	13	64	26
Percent satisfied with learning environment	69.2%	78.1%	96.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	61.5%	65.6%	80.8%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	84.4%	76.9%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2012, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	100.0
Overall Grade Conversion	A

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Palmetto Scholars Academy school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	13.1%	2.6%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	13.6%	5.1%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.4%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	97.3%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 6-8						
All Students	690.3	679.9	658.4	664.2	100.0	99.5
Male	690.9	690.6	665.9	674.1	100.0	98.9
Female	689.8	671.0	653.7	656.3	100.0	100.0
White	696.6	685.6	666.0	670.1	100.0	99.3
African American	669.4	659.5	637.1	647.3	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	666.0	660.6	634.1	640.8	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	624.0	624.0	624.0	624.0	95.0	95.0

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	68	98.5	5	18.3	76.7	95
	7	71	100	9.2	18.5	72.3	90.8
	8	45	100	2.4	19.5	78	97.6
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	62	100	7.7	19.2	73.1	92.3
	7	72	100	1.5	25.8	72.7	98.5
	8	69	100	7.6	18.2	74.2	92.4
Mathematics							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	68	98.5	5	45	50	95
	7	71	100	9.2	23.1	67.7	90.8
	8	45	100	2.4	36.6	61	97.6
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	62	100	5.8	34.6	59.6	94.2
	7	72	98.6	6.2	55.4	38.5	93.8
	8	69	100	6.1	31.8	62.1	93.9
Science							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	35	100	6.3	56.3	37.5	93.8
	7	71	100	6.2	41.5	52.3	93.8
	8	23	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	30	100	8.7	65.2	26.1	91.3
	7	72	100	6.1	43.9	50	93.9
	8	35	100	15.6	40.6	43.8	84.4

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
Social Studies							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	33	93.9	3.6	32.1	64.3	96.4
	7	71	100	7.7	26.2	66.2	92.3
2012	8	22	100	5.3	31.6	63.2	94.7
	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	32	96.9	7.1	32.1	60.7	92.9
2012	7	72	98.6	6.2	40	53.8	93.8
	8	34	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
Writing							
2011	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	8	46	100	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	100
	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2012	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	72	100	4.4	10.3	85.3	95.6

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